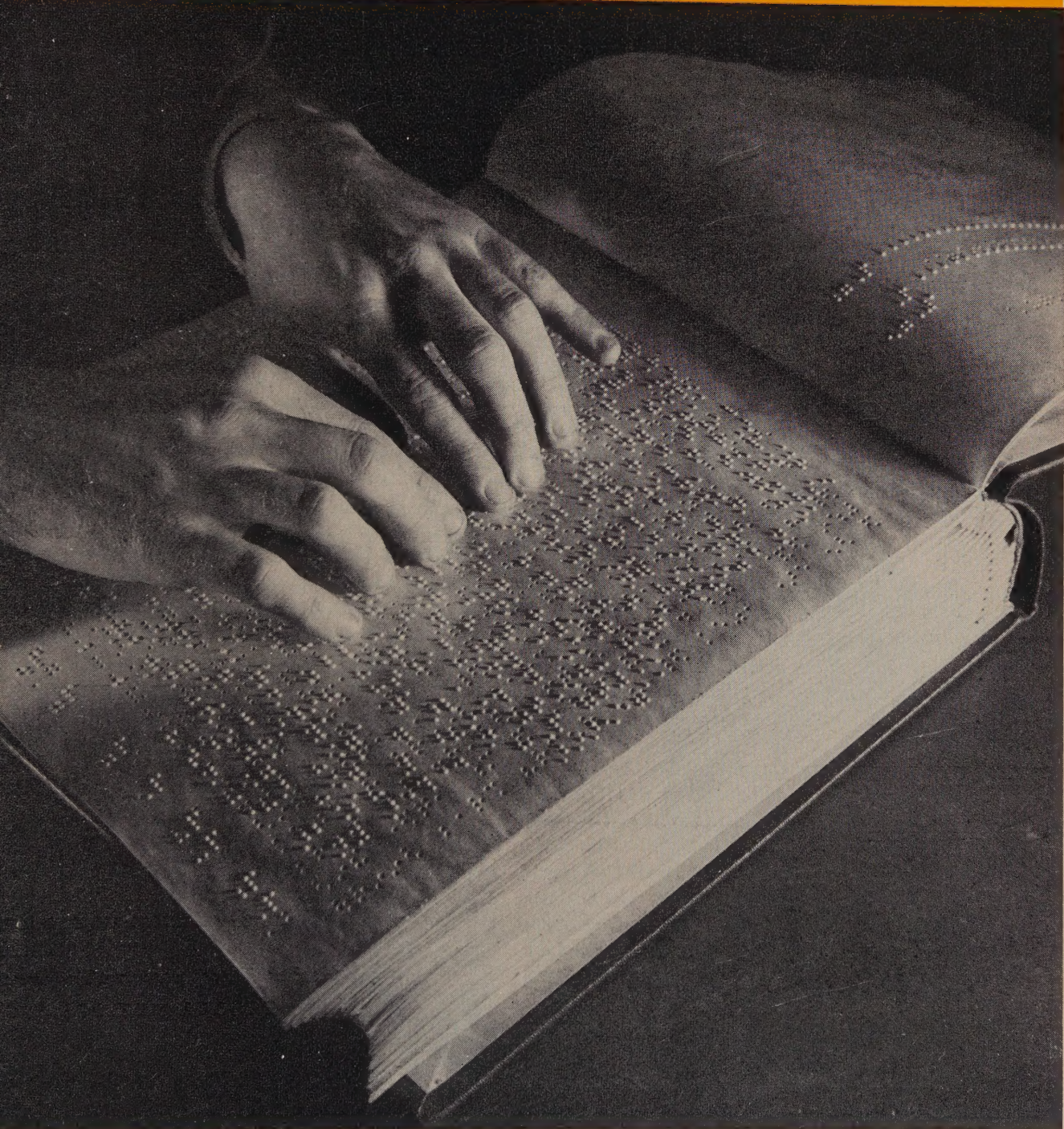


APRIL 1960

Vol. 105, No. 4

BIBLE
SOCIETY

Record

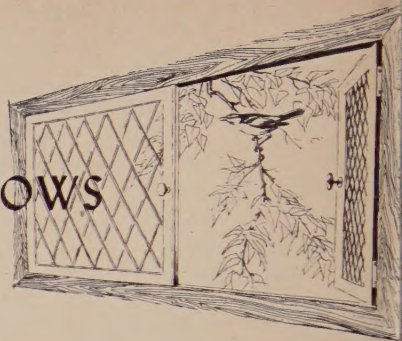


125th Anniversary of the American Bible Society's Work for the Blind
(See pages 52 & 53)

Three Lions

"If the message of the Good News is to reach the heart, it must be presented in the words which speak to the heart."

WORD WINDOWS



ONCE again the translation of some of the great truths of the Gospel became windows to let in the light of faith, hope and love.

Faith

The Mossi people in French West Africa speak of "faith" as "leaning on God." This would seem to be faith, confidence, trust and dependence all included in one phrase. The Valiente Indians of Panama describe "faith" as "catching God in the mind." The Loma people of Liberia translate "to have faith in the Gospel" as "to lay one's hand on the Good News." This phrase reflects the Loma practice of identifying oneself with an object or action by "laying one's hand on it," that is, indicating to all who witness the act that here is one who completely identifies himself with the truth for which he stands.

Hope

Hope is sometimes one of the most difficult terms to translate in the entire Bible.

It is not because people do not hope for things, but so often they speak of hoping as simply "waiting."

Hope is therefore a blend of two activities: waiting and desiring.

The Maya language describes the dependence of hope by the phrase "on what it hangs." "Our hope in God" means that "we hang on to God." The object of hope is the support of one's expectant waiting.

Love

There is no Gospel without love, even as there is no life without faith. Sometimes love is described in strong, powerful terms. The Miskitos of eastern Nicaragua and Honduras say that "love" is "pain of the heart." There is love which so dominates the soul that its closest emotion seems to be pain. For the Tzotzil of Mexico John 3:16 reads, "God so hurt in His heart, that He gave His only Son"; Here is compassion of an open heart which sought in Christ to reconcile the world unto Himself.

Excerpts from "God's Word in Man's Language" by Eugene A. Nida, Ph.D. Secretary for translations

SEMINARIANS DISTRIBUTE BIBLES

THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY, working through Secretary Dean Collins of the Pacific Region, cooperates with Pacific Bible Seminary in a plan to distribute a Bible to every home in East Long Beach where residents do not own one. Pacific is one of the first schools in the United States to carry out such a plan.

Student chairmen were Carol Zumbiel (West Fort Walton Beach, Florida), chairman of the Campus Christian Service Committee, and Don Leicht (Youth Director at First Christian Church of Pico-Rivera), student-body president. After several weeks of preparation and prayer the students began a house-to-house campaign during the first two weeks in December. The American Bible Society film, "How We Got Our Bible," thrilled and instructed the students at a morning chapel period.

After a brief orientation, students called at every residence, presenting a Christmas greeting from the Society and the Seminary in the form of a beautiful

booklet of Christmas Scriptures. A pictorial copy of the Gospel of Luke was offered as a gift. Then, in offering a daily Bible-reading guide for 1960, prepared each year by the Bible Society, the student discovered whether or not the family possessed a Bible. If not, a copy was offered free of charge. All supplies and Bibles were furnished by the American Bible Society without charge to the school.

These contacts established evangelistic opportunities for the student to witness for Christ. Further marvelous good will was effected with the neighbors.



Bible Society Record

VOLUME 105

APRIL 1960

NUMBER 4

Editorial

WITNESS OF THE AGES

I AM indeed happy to express my profound gratitude to the American Bible Society for the magnificent service it has rendered the blind of the world.

I cannot recall a further-reaching benefit to the blind, unless it be education itself. For wherever the Bible goes, it carries new hope to the handicapped and quickens their wills to rebuild their broken lives.

It is natural that I should think first of those who have not the light of earth's day; but I never forget that the Bible is the Lord's rod and staff comforting multitudes who, though not physically hindered, live in a vale of shadow. It has always been a grief to me that many people do not look upon the Bible as a book for daily use, but only to be read in church or on holy days and special occasions. The Bible is a book to live with, to think from, and to die by. It is a book that, as Dryden said, "If everything else in our language should perish, it would alone suffice to show the whole extent of its beauty and power."

The spiritual culture we derive from reading frequently this amazing Witness of the Ages is as vital as the daily bread which nourishes our bodies. Again and again we must listen to the heart-molding words of the Prophets, or we shall lose the sense of God's presence.

Yes, we the blind and seeing, the wise and simple alike, need the Bible daily as "a book of remembrance," if our spirits are to strike deep roots in faith and send up flowering boughs of achievement far into the future.

—HELEN KELLER



SO GREAT THE LIGHT

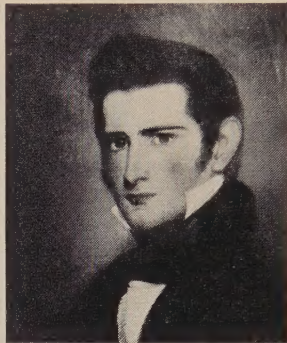
125 Years of Service To the Blind By S. Ruth Barrett

"SO GREAT THE LIGHT," the American Bible Society's new inspirational and educational, 28-minute, color motion picture opens with the familiar Sunday morning scene of a little girl of the name of Rochelle reading the Bible lesson. There is a difference, however, between this class and the one most of you remember, and you'll have to look sharply to detect it; one of these children is blind—Rochelle.

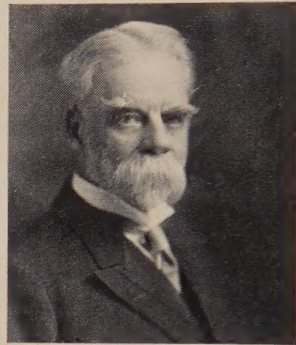
Through its work for the blind, the American Bible Society is helping to bring that light to the Rochelles of the world, and the lineage of her Braille Bible goes back to the year 1835.

In New York City, scarcely twenty years earlier, the American Bible Society had been founded.

In June, 1833, the recorded minutes of the Board of Managers noted that according to the census there were at least 5,385 blind persons in the United States (355,000 are now reported—Ed.) and stated that "it is the duty of the Society to provide an edition of



Samuel Gridley Howe



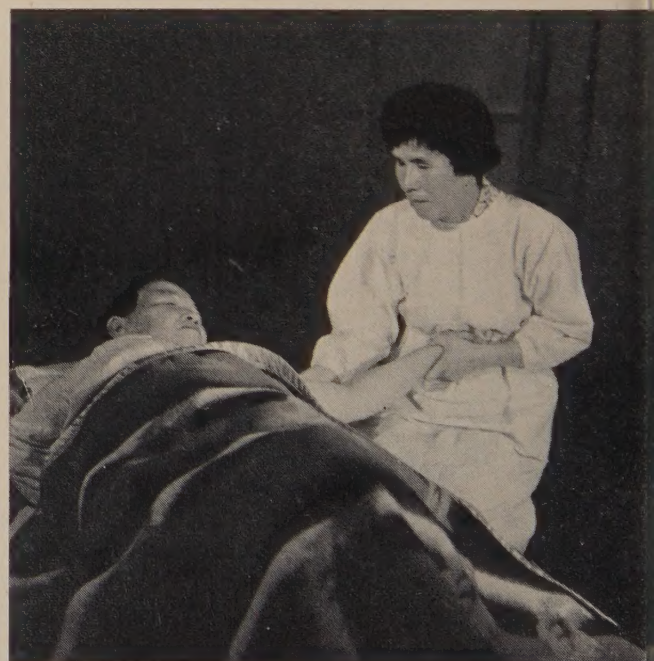
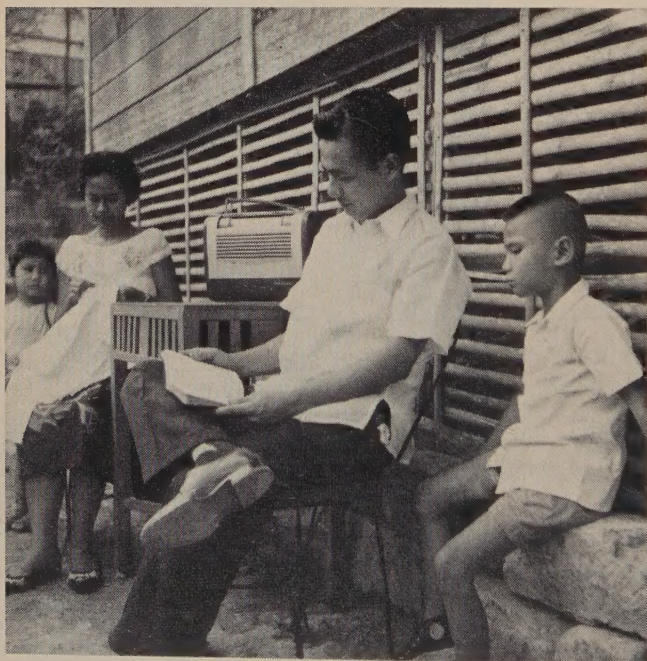
William Bell Wait

the entire New Testament for their use as soon as a system of printing is settled." The Board did not have long to wait.

On a spring day in April 1835, Dr. Samuel Gridley Howe drove down from Boston. He was accompanied by two blind persons whom he had taught to read ordinary lettering embossed on special paper. He went straight to the Society's building on Nassau Street. There the Society presented Doctor Howe with a check for one thousand dollars to pioneer the work which was to lead to the publication of the Bible in the Line Letter system, a sixteen-volume edition, the stereotype plates of which cost \$10,000. Over a period of sixty years, thousands of volumes were published and distributed in Howe's method of embossed printing.

Then in 1874, the Bible was printed in New York Point, a raised-dot system invented by William Bell Wait, another pioneer worker for the blind.

For eighty years embossing was on only one side



From "So Great the Light" . . . Filipino family listen to Bible broadcast . . . A blind Japanese masseuse at work



View of a section of Ann and Nassau streets, New York City 1830. On the corner is the office of the "New York Mirror." To the right are three dwelling houses of ordinary size, finely relieved by the building of the American Bible Society. There Dr. Howe received the gift of one thousand dollars to pioneer in the publication of the Bible for the Blind.

of the sheet. Mr. Wait, however, perfected the New York Point Biphone (two-side printing) which greatly reduced the bulk as well as the cost, and the Bible was produced in this form, which is still read and preferred today by some finger-tip readers. This was followed by publications in a raised dot system which bears the name of a blind Frenchman, Louis Braille, probably the greatest benefactor of the blind that the world has ever known. The Bible Society began printing the Bible in this system in 1911. Braille is the system most widely read by the blind today.

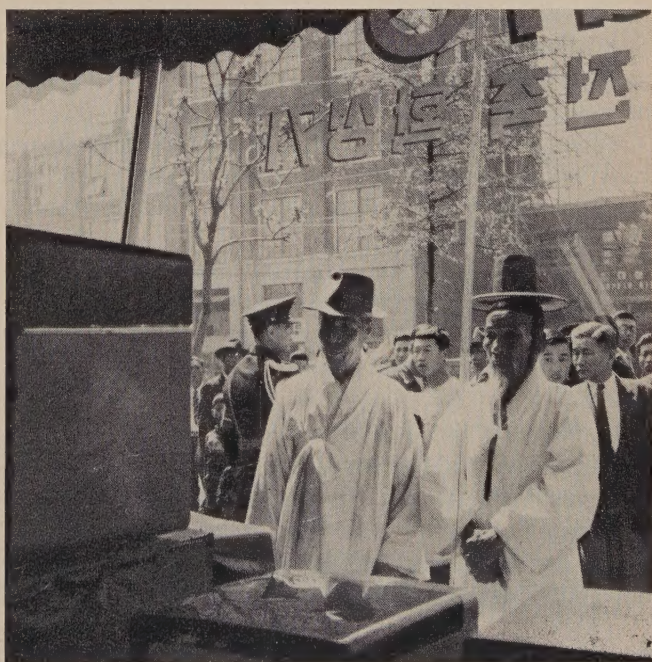
The film vividly outlines the mass production of volumes in Braille. Patterns of dots are impressed on zinc plates by a plunger responding to the touch of the operator of a large stereotype machine. Letters

and numbers are represented by various arrangements of from one to six dots. From these a total of 258 combinations is possible. They can represent any language that has an alphabet or written characters and they can be used to form complete mathematical and musical codes.

For those unable to read the Braille, the Society offers the Moon Bible, a modified raised-letter system, and for those unable to read any system with their finger tips, the entire Bible on 170 Talking Book records brings joy and comfort to countless thousands.

The fact that blind people can be active members of society is high-lighted throughout the film—in homemaking and industry: a telephone switchboard

(Continued on page 58)



... Blind Korean children read their braille Bibles... Koreans watch telecast celebrating new Korean braille Bible

WHAT IS A FAMILY BIBLE*

By Marguerite and Frank Fidler

EIGHT-YEAR-OLD Burtt came bounding home from school.

"Mom, can I take our family Bible to show Miss Wilson and the kids?"

We wondered which one of our Bibles he meant. The one we usually read in family worship lies handy to the breakfast table. But what special interest would this Bible have for Burtt's friends?

"I mean that great big Bible with the hard covers up in the attic. You know, the one that has the dates when grandpa was married, and all that stuff."

That set us to thinking. What is our family Bible?

Is it some special volume, put away for safe keeping in the attic, with its record of some family births and marriages and deaths? Or is our family's Bible one that we use together, a bit limp at the corners, soiled here and there by little thumbs as well as big?

When we asked the family, the older children replied without hesitation, "Whichever one is handiest is our family Bible." It is the Bible through which God speaks to us together.

It tells us things about ourselves more vital than the family statistics we might record in it.

It tells us that we belong to a family much greater than our own household and the circle of our relatives.

It tells us of the One who made man, who created the universe and all that is in it, whose laws inexorably order it, yet whom we are encouraged to call "our Father."

We are a reading family, but we know no other book that makes us so sure of God, so much aware of



Devaney

the real part He has in every day's experiences. This is our family Bible.

"Why does the family need the Bible?" There's a simple answer. No other book deals with the deepest questions of life on so many different levels of understanding and with such satisfying answers for all kinds of people, young and old, educated and illiterate, strong and weak, secure and anxious.

And it is a family book. It tells of families to whom God has shown Himself—the family of Abraham that grew into that great little nation Israel—the new family of believers called by Jesus Christ to be His Church. It

makes us aware of our responsibility toward other families. It makes us want to share what God has given us with the whole family of mankind—His family, too!

Back of the pages of the Bible stands the living God. We read the words not to become familiar with a book but to become acquainted with Him.

The Bible constantly makes us look beyond its pages and see beyond the written words.

In fact, no words can fully show us God, not even Bible words. It is through one person that we really come to know Him as he is in relation to our life. That person is Jesus Christ. We only know of him authentically through the Bible. So we cannot do without the Bible if we desire a Christian home. The central focus of the whole Bible is summed up in John's word about his Gospel, "... these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name."

Happy those parents who from their earliest days as bride and groom began to share a family Bible in

(Continued on page 58)

*This article is reprinted with the permission of the Christian Home Magazine.

BIBLE SOCIETY AIDS TYPHOON VICTIMS

IMMEDIATELY after the typhoon struck Nagoya, Japan last fall, the Japan Bible Society joined the Christian relief work under the direction of the National Christian Council and Church World Service. They sent one of their secretaries to Nagoya with the Bible Van loaded with food and clothing. It also carried Bibles, Testaments and Portions to replace those that had been lost during the flood. To date the Japan Bible Society has provided 410 Bibles to the pastors of the area for distribution to their members. An additional 500 Bibles have been given to the Christian schools for the students who lost their copies. One mission purchased 15,000 copies of Japanese St. John for distribution with food and clothing parcels. General Secretary Miyakoda closes his report with these words: "The people of Nagoya seemed very tired after more than a month of struggle with the flood. We are hoping and praying that the Word

of God may give them strength to stand up to the task of reconstruction."



Refugees receiving Portions from Japan Bible Society.



Bible van unloads relief goods and Portions at Nagoya.



Church member receives relief goods and Gospel.

SHIMABUKU REVISITED

BY NOTOAKI TANABE*

IMMEDIATELY following the bloody battles for Okinawa during World War II a correspondent, Clarence W. Hall, stumbled into a tiny village named Shimabuku. There in this hamlet, about an hour by jeep from the city of Naha, he found a story that since has been told around the world. A few hundred native Okinawans with but a single Bible as a guide had formed their community life into a Christian democracy at its purest. At the center of the group was their dynamic and self-taught leader, Shosei Kina, and his brother, Mojon.

*Secretary of Distribution, Japan Bible Society.

Thirty years before, an unknown missionary on his way to Japan had stopped at Shimabuku just long enough to introduce Shosei and Mojon Kina to the Christian way of life and to leave them a copy of the Scriptures. What these men encountered as they studied its pages was not only a pattern for life, but the One who gives life. When a tough Army sergeant saw the remarkable community that had come into being he thoughtfully observed, "Maybe we've been using the wrong kind of weapons to make the world over."

Some fifteen years after World War II on a trip
(Continued on page 58)

LIFE THROUGH



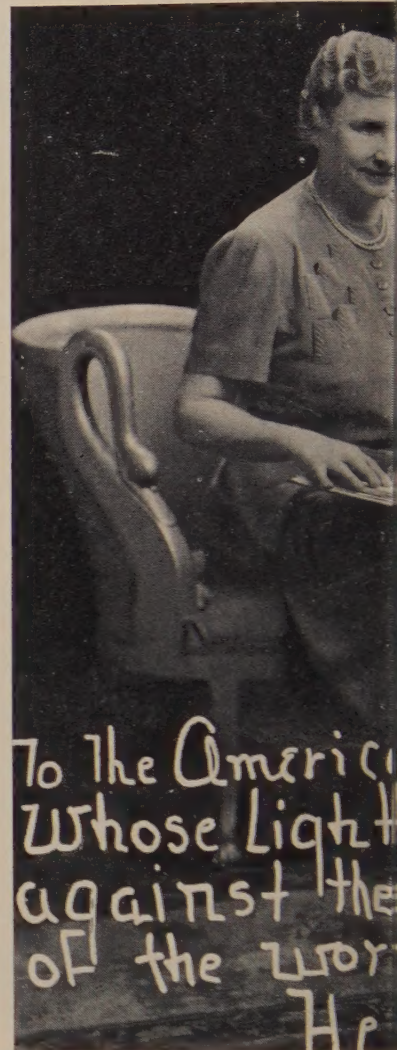
Four readers of Portuguese Braille are happy with their first Bible volumes. Fraternal Secretary Nelson of the Brazil Bible Society looks on.



Dexterous finger-tip readers need many volumes of the Braille Bible in their weekday religious classes at the Indianapolis School for the Blind.

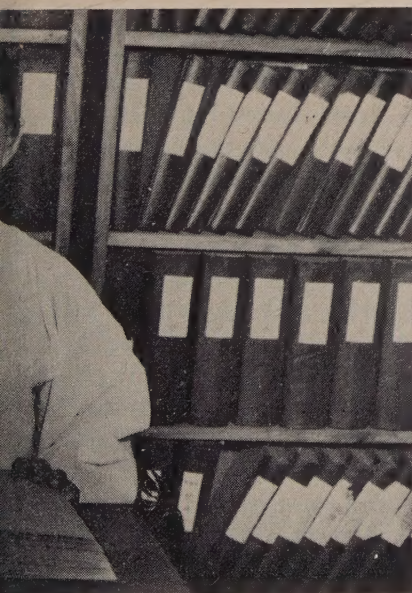


Miss Dora Tolle, blind teacher of Kansas City, Mo., is a daily reader of her Braille Bible. It is also used for her Sunday-school Lessons each week.



In Korea Mrs. Na Soon Do Braille Bible requires twenty v

THE FINGER TIPS



Scripture volume. The Korean

The Japanese Braille Bible has transformed countless lives. Many blind persons in Japan enjoy the Bible in English Braille too.



Alvin B. Svehla of Everett, Washington, shares his Bible records with friends. He is a weekly visitor to hospitals, where he reads to the sick from his Braille Bible.



India has a population of 2,000,000 blind people. These sighted children listen with eager interest as their blind teacher reads from his Braille Bible.

SO GREAT THE LIGHT

(Continued from page 53)

operator, a Christian lawyer who is also a church-school teacher, a blind Japanese woman who with her sharpened sense of touch is a skilled masseuse.

Blindness recognizes no racial and national barriers. In Korea, so recently devastated by war, scores of institutions are dedicated to the physical, mental and spiritual welfare of the blind. The great majority of the schools and training centers are operated and supported by Christian churches and agencies, and staffed with Christian teachers. The Bible in Korean Braille is a familiar textbook in every school for blind children. The complete Bible is composed of twenty volumes and, when placed in a single stack, the books reach a height of over four feet. One of the most stirring scenes in the film is the television broadcast celebrating the new Korean Braille edition published in April 1957. The Reverend Im Young Bin, a Methodist minister and Secretary of the Korean Bible Society, participated in the telecast from the studio in Seoul. Not only the Braille volumes, but the printing plates themselves were produced in Korea. A grant of special paper was made

by the American Bible Society so that the new edition of the "wonderful words of life" could be completed.

As the quartet sings these words at the television broadcast the camera fades out and carries the viewer to Japan, where in 1956 the sightless were blessed with the publication of the Bible in colloquial Japanese—to Africa, where little blind children easily learn to use the Finger-fono with its Scripture recording on little disks—to the Philippines, where the facilities of the radio stations are used to bring the "light of the world" to the blind—to India, where the sightless colporteurs read to others from the source of true wisdom and knowledge, the Word of God.

In 125 years of service to the blind, the American Bible Society, a pioneer in this work, has distributed over three-quarters of a million volumes of embossed Scriptures and Talking Book records in more than forty different languages and systems.

"So Great the Light" underlines the prevailing theme of the film in its closing narration, "The Society's sole purpose is to supply the Word of God to everyone, at a price he can afford and in the tongue or form in which he can read for himself. That purpose is being carried out in its work on behalf of those who have lost their sight."

WHAT IS A FAMILY BIBLE

(Continued from page 54)

their worship and conversation and study. It is so natural for them to continue when the children come. Even a child in his high chair overhearing family worship, though he cannot begin to understand it, soon senses that here is a book of special significance in his family's life. God is a familiar name. His influence is recognized and accepted before the earliest questions are posed about Him.

When questions do come such parents frequently find that these are opportunities for them, as well as for their children, to grow in knowledge and response to God.

Three things will help as we endeavor to let the Bible speak to us in the family.

Read with an expectant attitude. Expect God to meet you there. The Bible has strange power to do something to those who read it expectantly, as well as to say something to them. "After all," Joseph Sizoo reminds us in his recent book, *"I Believe in the Bible,"* "God reveals Himself not so much to the clever as to the trusting."

Read with an open mind. What is it really saying? Ask questions of it. Test it. Be unafraid of critical examination. What meaning lies behind the words you read? If you don't know the answers raised in the family, venture to search together in a commentary. Consult your pastor. Wrestle with the great new ideas that the Bible presents until you

can interpret them in terms of your own situation.

Read with desire to respond. This is the crux of hearing what the Bible has to say to us: "Not every one who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven."

SHIMABUKU REVISITED

(Continued from page 55)

to Okinawa for the Japan Bible Society I wanted to follow up this story and see what was happening today in this village. I found Shosei Kina at the age of 77 still working energetically for the welfare of his neighbors. His brother Mojon is at his side as ever. The Bible is still at the heart of the community. Although newcomers have swelled the population of the hamlet, the Christian focus on life is sharp.

Recently the Shimabuku congregation was able to call its first full-time pastor, the Rev. Osamu Taira. Sometime in the future it is the hope of the church to be able to build a Christian chapel for its worship. Meanwhile services are now conducted in a rented house.

This group of faithful worshipers is poor but steadfast; 45 years of life centered on the Scriptures have built a thriving and vigorous congregation. Today some help will be necessary if every member is to have a copy of the Scriptures and if the church

(Continued on page 61)

By-Lines on the Bible

DR. W. LUTJEHARMS, Assistant General Secretary of the Société Biblique Belge, has reported the activities of their colporteurs during 1959. Twelve men are working as follows: 5 in Wallonia among French-speaking people; 3 in Flanders among Flemish-speaking people; 1 in Brussels; 1 among the coal miners, Italian- and Greek-speaking people; and 2 in the Eastern Cantons and Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, among German-speaking people.

Except during the cold winter time several of the colporteurs regularly visit the various market places . . . one colporteur imitates a system which works successfully with many other commodities. That system is to present to the people a small gift to make it easy for them to learn the advantage of the material. So going from door to door, he says to the people: "I have the pleasure to offer you a gift. Look, here I give you the four Gospels. Of course you may give me something for it, but you should see it as a special gift for you" . . . When he returns some weeks later on, they are very often quite willing to buy a New Testament.

The colporteurs still feel the blessed influence of the testimony given by the Pavilion at the Brussels Exhibition. Thousands of people saw the Bibles there and received the Bible Portions and tracts. Very often people now say to the colporteur, "We know about your work. We received a booklet. We should like to have a Bible" . . . One colporteur met a man in the market in a small town who bought the four Gospels. Some weeks later on this man came with his wife and wished to have a New Testament. This visit was repeated again, and finally they bought a Bible . . . Now they have found the way to one of the churches in this district.

THE Bible Society recently received the following letter: "The Mennonite young people of Lowville and Croghan, New York, have voted to send part of the money from their missionary projects to the American Bible Society.

"One project this year was raising oats. Due to very wet conditions we lost much of our crop but we still met a small profit. Some of our money also came from a bean crop of two years ago. Inclosed is a check for \$66.20."

A NUMBER of lay workers are taking an active part in the work of Scripture distribution in Pakistan. A group of them go out with the Bible Society van, having previously worked out their itinerary. They stop by the roadside and sing a hymn, whereupon people begin to

gather. After the hymn there is a reading—one of the group reads from the Bible and gives a message. After the message, Gospel Portions and other Christian literature are distributed, and the group then moves on to another stopping place.

Weekly Bible study and prayer meetings held in the Bible House in Lahore, an agency of the British and Foreign Bible Society, help to provide training for these lay workers.

RECENTLY the Baptist Church of Belgrano, Argentina, conducted a Scripture distribution campaign. The congregation, in pairs, with their books in their bags, "marched forth to face the cold, the drizzle and all the powers of Satan which always present themselves at this time. The pastor's responsibility was to accompany each couple for a short time to show them how to set about the work. Every couple sold some books and some were outstanding for the quantity of Scriptures sold and the addresses they collected of people who either bought books or showed interest in receiving church visitors at a later date."

SECRETARY LIMKEMANN, in charge of the American Bible Society Agency Office in the Canal Zone, has pointed out that the costs of distributing the Scriptures in Central America have been rising for some time and continues to do so. Nevertheless the Agency is maintaining catalog values at the old level because in this area many people are caught between the increased cost of living and the smaller increase of wages. Prices are being kept down so that God's Word will remain within the reach of all.

ONE department head in the Japan Bible Society is engaged in developing contacts with the book trade. There are about 10,000 bookshops all over Japan. The Bible Society hopes to place Scriptures in about 3,000 of them. There are at present about 500 retailers who exhibit and sell the Scriptures. Several of the largest have, with the help of the Bible Society, organized small Bible Exhibitions on their own premises. The last of such exhibitions took place for a week in the largest bookshop of Yokohama during the first week of May. It had many visitors, 800 of whom registered their names and addresses.

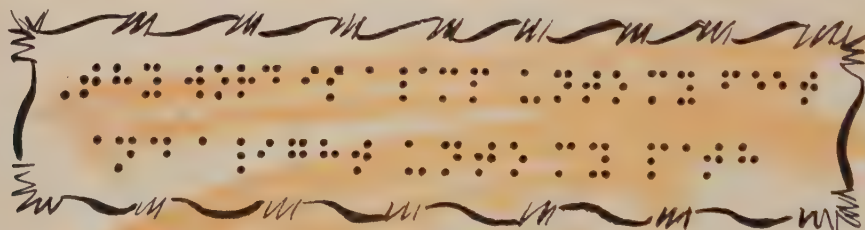
page for children



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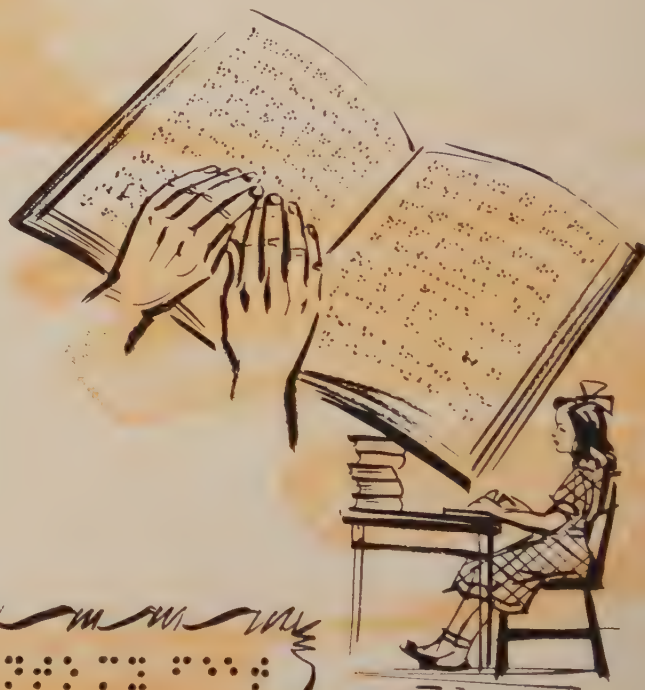
knew that blind persons could feel bumps on heavy paper, so he made an alphabet of raised dots for them to read with their finger tips.

Here is the Braille alphabet used to-day, and below is a verse from the Bible in Braille. Can you read it, using the Braille alphabet?



One day over a hundred years ago a little boy named Louis Braille had an accident that left him blind. Because he was blind he was sent to a special school for boys and girls who could not see. When he grew up he became a teacher at the school.

Louis Braille decided to find a better way to teach blind children to read. He



Because of Louis Braille and others who worked out systems of reading for the blind, boys and girls who cannot see are able to read Bibles in many languages sent out by the American Bible Society.

APRIL 1960

Chicago's Bible Man for Fifty Years

BY JOHN W. OSBERG

How does a person become a colporteur? There are many ways, but this is how it happened with Gabriel Vas.

As a Hungarian immigrant in Bridgeport, Connecticut he met, somewhat by accident, a man who was distributing Bibles. Gabriel Vas helped him and soon was outstripping him in the task of Scripture distribution. Because he worked in a factory, his first concern was to reach his co-workers. He was so thorough in his lunch hour distribution that he smilingly says now that there were no more customers for his books in the factory.

Reared in a fine Christian home of Reformed Presbyterians, Gabriel Vas came to this country at 19 as a consecrated Christian, but he was not satisfied with being a Christian who did part-time service for the Lord. His taste of distributing the Scriptures with the many opportunities for witnessing to Jesus Christ whetted his appetite for more.

From New York Mr. Vas came to Chicago, where for 50 of his 72 years he has shared the Bible with the people of greater Chicago. He works especially in the crowded tenement areas and in sections of the city where foreign languages are the rule, not the exception. He fits in well here, for he speaks Hungarian, Spanish and English fluently. His modesty almost prevents him from admitting something that is highly significant. In several languages he can offer a Bible and direct the attention of the person to whom he is speaking to Jesus Christ.

The Bible Society provides Scriptures for Mr. Vas at a reduced price, so that when he sells the books at regular prices he has some income. The little salary he receives from the Bible Society doesn't do much more than meet his transportation expenses. Mr. Vas lives very simply, smilingly admitting that mostly he hasn't time for restaurant meals and because of time

and expense he frequently eats "out of his pocket." His pattern of operation brings him back to the same neighborhoods time and again. The children in the neighborhood, and their parents too, know him as "The Bible Man." Frequently the door that is slammed in his face on the occasion of the first visit, opens to welcome him on the third or fourth call. He tells of a little incident in which he asked to leave his heavy package of Bibles temporarily in a home where the family had expressed indifference to the Book. For several days the Bible bundle was there, with Mr. Vas depleting it as he distributed Scriptures. Finally the day came when the family that had learned to know this man of God came to know his Book and its Christ.

A colporteur leads a life of self-discipline, for he is totally on his own. Mr. Vas must depend upon his own two legs and public transportation to get him from place to place. He must be able to meet rebuff gently with a hope that his smile will reflect the grace of Christ within him.

Five churches have been organized in five different states as a result of Gabriel Vas' calling with the Book. As Mr. Vas tells of his work one realizes that there is no social security for this type of labor; in fact, there is little security of material things in any form. Yet, looking into the saintly eyes of Colporteur Vas, one immediately senses he has the greatest security of all, a living faith in Jesus Christ and in God's abundant providence through Him.

Mr. Vas will receive the annual Gutenberg Award for exceptional service to the Bible cause from the Chicago Bible Society at its Annual Meeting. Chicago-area friends may enjoy attending the meeting, which will be held at the Palmer House, April 29 at 7:30 p.m.

SHIMABUKU REVISITED *(Continued from page 58)*

is to own its own pulpit Bible. Shosei Kina told me that the Bible he has owned and from which he has taught his friends and neighbors in Shimabuku for over 45 years is his most valued possession. Others in his village and throughout Okinawa must also find this treasure.

And they will. Today there is a man on the island who is giving his life to spreading the Scriptures, Masabumi Yoshimura. He first came to know the power and love of God in the group led by Shosei Kina. Now as a colporteur for the Okinawa Bible Committee he is helping others to discover the treasure he first found at Shimabuku.

As I left the little village I knew that somehow running through it was God's line of endless splendor.



Mr. Vas distributing Gospels to a group of children

Announcements . . .

Bible Society Record

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Vol. 105 APRIL 1960 No. 4

January Meeting of the Board

A meeting of the Board of Managers was held at the Bible House on Thursday, January 7, 1960, at 3:30 p.m., President Daniel Burke, LL.D., in the Chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Secretary North. The resignation of Assistant Secretary Albert C. Johnson was accepted, with appreciation for his 13 years of faithful and valued service.

The following texts were approved for publication: Psalms and Isaiah in Tshiluba; Gospel of Luke in Kissi and the Gospel of John in Huistán Tzotzil.

As reported in the March issue, and also in this issue of the *Bible Society Record* (below), the Board of Managers voted to recommend to the Annual Meeting on May 12, 1960, that Article I of the Constitution of the American Bible Society be amended.

Mr. Barney Weissman was appointed Superintendent of Depositories, with the status of Assistant Secretary.

It was reported that 2,010,120 copies of the Christmas Story Portion from the Gospel of Luke were distributed before Christmas, 1959.

It was also reported that a total of 13,129,969 volumes of the Scriptures were issued from the Bible House in New York during the first eleven months of 1959.

Constitutional Amendment

In order to meet increasing opportunities for evangelistic use of English Scriptures, the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society recommends the following change in the Constitution as a means of facilitating the publication of (1) Scriptures in "Simple English" for persons for whom English is not a mother tongue, (2) an "edited" 350th Anniversary text of the King James Version, (3) the Revised Standard Version Bible.

The adoption of this recommendation would place English Scriptures on the same basis as all foreign-language Scriptures,

which in accordance with the By-Laws must be examined by the Translations Committee with regard to their catholicity, clarity and fidelity and upon recommendation by the Translations Committee authorized by the Board.

The Board of Managers in its January meeting made the following recommendation, to be presented in the Annual Meeting on May 12, 1960:

To recommend to the Annual Meeting that Article I of the Constitution of the American Bible Society be amended to delete the words,

"The only copies in the English language, to be circulated by the Society, shall be the King James Version, first issued in 1611, the Revised Version of 1881 and 1885, and the American Standard Revised Version of 1901, and the New Testament of the Revised Standard Version first issued in 1946,"

and to substitute the words,

"No version of the Holy Scriptures or any part thereof, whether in English or any other language, shall be published by the Society unless publication of such version has first been approved by the Board of Managers."



February Meeting of the Board

A meeting of the Board of Managers was held at the Bible House on Thursday, February 4, 1960, at 3:30 p.m. Vice-President John J. Leu was in the Chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Dr. Alvin A. Ahern.

Mr. Charles S. Thomas was elected a Manager.

It was reported that during the month of December, the windows and lobby of the Bible House contained a display of The Christmas Story Around the World, showing more than 100 volumes of Scripture opened to the Christmas Story, which were viewed by over 1,400 visitors.

It was also reported that there was a large increase in the distribution of the Scriptures to the blind during 1959.

The election of Rev. Dr. A. E. Inbanathan as General Secretary of the Bible Society of India and Ceylon was reported.



Anniversary Date

The 125th Anniversary of the American Bible Society's work for the blind will be celebrated at the Annual Meeting on May 12 at the Manhattan Hotel, New York City. An Anniversary luncheon will be held at 12:30, followed by the Annual Meeting at 2:30. Luncheon reservations (\$5.00 per plate) be made at the Bible House before April 28.



Anniversary on Television—May 8

Lamp Unto Our Feet, a coast to coast half-hour dramatic program of the Columbia Broadcasting System, will feature Bible Society's work for the blind on May 8, 10 to 10:30 A.M. E.S.T.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

1960			APRIL			1960		
Day	Book	Chapter	Day	Book	Chapter	Day	Book	Chapter
1	Mark	4:1-34	16	Colossians	3:1-15	1	Mark	16:1-8
2	Matthew	4:23-5:20	17	Easter Sunday		2	Luke	24:1-11
3	Passion Sunday		18	Luke	24:13-27	3	Luke	24:28-53
4	John	18:15-27	19	Luke	24:37-1:36	4	Genesis	39:1-23
5	John	18:28-40	20	Genesis	5:6-7; 13:44-46; 18:21-35	5	Genesis	40:1-23
6	Psalms	130:1-8	21	Genesis	41:1-24	6	Genesis	41:25-57
7	Psalms	118:1-29	22	Genesis	42:1-38	7	Genesis	43:1-34
8	Luke	16:19-31	23	Matthew	15:8, 27-37; Luke 9:61-62	8	Luke	2:39-52
9	Matthew	5:3-5	24	Genesis	40:1-23	9	Philipp.	4:8-13
10	Palm Sunday		25	Genesis	41:1-24	10	Matthew	6:1-18
11	Luke	19:28-48	26	Genesis	42:1-38	11	Exodus	9:8-35
12	Psalms	41:1-13	27	Genesis	43:1-34	12	Exodus	10:1-29
13	Psalms	69:1-21	28	Luke	2:39-52	13	Exodus	11:1-12:13
14	Psalms	34:1-11	29	Philipp.	4:8-13	14	Exodus	12:14-28
15	Good Friday		30	Matthew	15:8, 27-37; Luke 9:61-62	15	Exodus	12:29-51
	John	19:17-30						

1960			MAY			1960		
Day	Book	Chapter	Day	Book	Chapter	Day	Book	Chapter
1	Genesis	44:1-34	17	Exodus	6:2-13; 6:28-7:13	1	Exodus	13:1-14
2	Genesis	45:1-28	18	Exodus	7:14-8:15	2	Exodus	14:1-14
3	Genesis	46:1-34	19	Exodus	8:16-9:7	3	Exodus	15:1-17
4	Genesis	47:1-31	20	Luke	18:9-14	4	Exodus	16:1-29
5	Genesis	48:1-49:1	21	Matthew	6:1-18	5	Exodus	17:1-16
6	Mark	10:35-45	22	Exodus	9:8-35	6	Exodus	18:1-27
7	Matthew	5:9; 21:26; 38-48	23	Exodus	10:1-29	7	Exodus	19:1-25
8	Proverbs	31:1-31	24	Exodus	11:1-12:13	8	Exodus	20:1-20
9	Genesis	49:28-50:26	25	Exodus	12:14-28	9	Exodus	21:1-21
10	Exodus	1:1-22	26	Ascension Day		10	Exodus	22:1-17
11	Exodus	2:1-25	27	Acts	1:1-14	11	Exodus	23:1-18
12	Exodus	3:1-22	28	Luke	12:13-40	12	Exodus	24:1-18
13	Philippians	1:21-30	29	Matthew	6:19-34	13	Exodus	25:1-46
14	Matthew	5:10-16; 13:31-35	30	Timothy	4:6-21	14	Exodus	26:1-35
15	Exodus	4:1-31	31	Psalms	90:1-17	15	Exodus	27:1-8
16	Exodus	5:1-6:1		Exodus	12:29-51	16	Exodus	28:1-43

A list of Daily Readings for the entire year may be obtained by writing to the Publicity Department, 450 Park Avenue, New York 22.

May-June Issue

As customary, the next issue of the *Record* will be a combined issue and will be sent early in June. The July-August issues will also be combined.

PAGES FOR CHILDREN—A special kit of adventure stories from the files of the American Bible Society, including the one on page 60, is now available at a nominal cost of fifty cents (50¢). Write: Pages for Children, American Bible Society, 440 Park Ave., South, New York 16, N. Y.

Form of a Bequest for the Blind

I give and bequeath, for the Blind Fund, to the American Bible Society, formed in New York in the year eighteen hundred and sixteen and incorporated in the year eighteen hundred and forty-one, the sum of

(If real estate is given, for the last words above, "the sum of," substitute the words "the following property, to wit, . . .")

BIBLE-SHARING PROJECTS

for your

Vacation Church School

HELPING to provide Scriptures for those who do not have them can be a valuable learning and sharing experience for your boys and girls.

This folder describes three projects suggested by the American Bible Society. Teaching materials related to these projects are available as listed, and may be requested.



PROJECT I.

Help Send New Testaments to Africa

EVERY fifty cent contribution to this project by the children in your Vacation Church School will enable the American Bible Society to provide an African with a complete New Testament, in his own language or dialect. Mark your gift: "For African New Testament Project."

PROJECT II.

Help Send Finger-fonos to Africa

THE Finger-fono carries God's Word to people who haven't yet learned to read, or who have as yet no written language. It is an inexpensive plastic phonograph, turned by a finger, simple for anyone to set up and operate anywhere. Every \$10 contribution to this project by the children in your Vacation Church School enables the Bible Society to send a missionary a set of 3 Finger-fonos and 18 records of Scripture passages in an African language.

PROJECT III.

Help Provide Scriptures for the Blind

THE American Bible Society is observing in 1960 the 125th Anniversary of its work with the blind. The Society provides special Scriptures in Braille and other embossed systems, and on Talking Book records. These are very expensive to produce, so the Bible Society sells them to blind people at only a very small fraction of their actual cost. The difference must be met through contributions. Your Vacation Church School can make a gift in any amount to help the Bible Society bring the Light of the World to people who live in darkness. Mark your gift: "For Scriptures for the Blind."

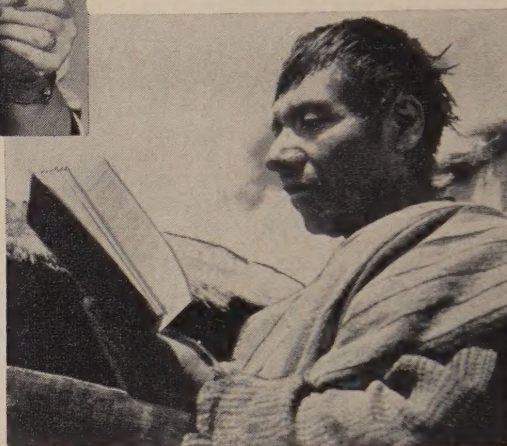
For complete information about these projects, including a list of available teaching aids, please write to:

Vacation Church School Projects
American Bible Society
440 Park Avenue, South
New York 16, New York



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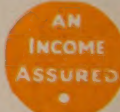
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